



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

CITRUS

EASY STEP HARVESTING PROCEDURES

Anyone harvesting and/or transporting fruit certified under the Caribbean Fruit Fly (CFF) Protocol program must sign a Compliance Agreement (FDACS-08461) for the current harvesting season.

Before Harvesting:

- Check the Trapping Report to make sure the Designated Area is certified.
- Call the nearest CFF Protocol office, including weekends, before harvesting, to “call in” the Designated Area, and the packinghouse destination.

Harvesting Certified Fruit:

- Make sure harvesting crews are in the correct Designated Area.
- Field bins must contain fruit from only one Designated Area, with the same harvest date.
- Fruit that has dropped or spilled on the ground must never be placed in a bin with certified fruit, or the whole bin will be contaminated and NOT CERTIFIED.
- Field bins containing dropped or spilled fruit must be clearly identified with flagging tape and set aside.

Orange Cards:

- Must be placed on all bins on the bottom row of the trailer before leaving the Designated Area being harvested. All bins must be carded upon arrival at the packinghouse.
- Must be clear and legible.
- Must show Designated Area, (with letter suffix if applicable) and harvest date.
- May be stamped, printed, or hand written, but must not be crossed out or marked over.
- Sample cards must be available for inspection by protocol personnel before harvesting begins.
- Split Load: fruit from more than one Designated Area, and/or harvest date can be transported on the same trailer if all bins are carded with the appropriate Designated Area and harvest date.

Transporting Harvested Fruit:

- Trailers should be parked in a certified Designated Area.
- Trip Tickets must accompany each load of fruit. Trip tickets must show: Township-Range-Section, Designated Area/Fly Free #, grove owner, trailer license number, and number of boxes.
- Bins containing spilled or dropped fruit may be transported on the same trailer with certified fruit, if the bins are flagged and have no cards attached. Harvested fruit should be transported to the packing house as soon as possible. Any delays should be reported to the Protocol office. Any accidents resulting in spilled fruit must be reported to the Protocol office immediately.